

20/580381

MAT-8861US

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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Appln. No: To be assigned  
Applicants: S. SUGIMOTO et al.  
Filed: Herewith  
Title: REFRIGERATOR  
TC/A.U.:  
Examiner:  
Confirmation No.:  
Docket No.: MAT-8861US

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Mail Stop PCT  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

S I R :

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98 and to the duty of disclosure set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, the Examiner in charge of the above-identified application is requested to consider and make of record the references listed on the PTO/SB/08a and /08b submitted herewith. Copies of the references listed are enclosed.

Although the information submitted herewith may be "material" to the Examiner's consideration of the subject application, this submission is not intended to constitute an admission that such information is "prior art" as to the claimed invention.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(g), the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed to mean that a search has been made.

The following references are not in the English language:

- 1) JP 1999-159941
- 2) JP 61-106785
- 3) JP 10-073362
- 4) JP 08-189752
- 5) JP 2003-287334
- 6) JP 2001-255048
- 7) JP 07-167547

References 1) to 7) include English language abstracts and/or a partial English translation.

References 6) and 7) are not in the English language, but a "concise explanation" under 37 CFR Section 1.98(a)(3) is set forth in the background portion of the above specification on pages 1 and 2.

References 1) to 5) were cited in a search report by a foreign Patent Office in a patent application corresponding to the above-identified patent application. A copy of this search report, which indicates the degree of relevance found by the foreign office, is transmitted herewith.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed concurrently with the above-referenced application.

Respectfully submitted,  
RatnerPrestia

Lawrence E. Ashery, Reg. No. 34,515  
Attorney for Applicants

LEA/bj

Enclosures: PTO/SB/08a and 08b  
7 References  
Search Report

Dated: July 6, 2006

P.O. Box 980  
Valley Forge, PA 19482-0980  
(610) 407-0700

The Commissioner for Patents is hereby authorized to charge payment to Deposit Account No. **18-0350** of any fees associated with this communication.

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I hereby certify that this paper and fee are being deposited, under 37 C.F.R. § 1.10 and with sufficient postage, using the "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service of the United States Postal Service on the date indicated above and that the deposit is addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.



Dennis McDermott

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE  
 STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**  
*(Use as many sheets as necessary)*

**SHEET 1 of 2**

**Complete if Known**

Application Number	To be assigned
Filing Date	Herewith
First Named Inventor	S. SUGIMOTO et al.
Art Unit	
Examiner Name	
Attorney Docket No.	MAT-8861US

**U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Document Number Number - Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)	Publication Date (MM-DD-YYYY)	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		US-			
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**FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document Country Code <sup>3</sup> - Number <sup>4</sup> - Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)	Publication Date (MM-DD-YYYY)	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T <sup>6</sup>
		JP 1999-159941 (w/English Abstract)	06-15-1999	SHARP CORP.		<input type="checkbox"/>
		JP 61-106785 (w/ partial English translation)	07-07-1986	SANYO ELECTRIC CO., LTD.		<input type="checkbox"/>
		JP 10-073362 (w/English Abstract)	03-17-1998	SHARP CORP.		<input type="checkbox"/>
		JP 08-189752 (w/English Abstract)	07-23-1996	MATSUSHITA REFRIG. CO., LTD.		<input type="checkbox"/>
		JP 2003-287334 (w/English Abstract)	10-10-2003	TOSHIBA CORP		<input type="checkbox"/>
		JP 2001-255048 (w/English Abstract)	09-21-2001	HITACHI LTD.		<input type="checkbox"/>
		JP 07-167547 (w/English Abstract)	07-04-1995	SHARP CORP.		<input type="checkbox"/>

Examiner Signature	Date Considered
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\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to Applicant.

<sup>1</sup>Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional).

<sup>2</sup>See Kind Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov) or MPEP 901.04.

<sup>3</sup>Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard St.3).

<sup>4</sup>For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document.

<sup>5</sup>Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible.

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The collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. **SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.**

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# INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

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Application Number	To be assigned
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First Named Inventor	S. SUGIMOTO et al.
Art Unit	
Examiner Name	
Attorney Docket No.	MAT-8861US

SHEET 2 of 2

**NON-PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published	T <sup>2</sup>
		International Search Report for Corresponding International Application No. PCT/JP2005/00321 dated April 26, 2005.	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Examiner Signature	Date Considered
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<sup>1</sup>Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional).

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